



# NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR HOWARD COUNTY

**For Immediate Release:**

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### **Laurel Man Sentenced for Drug-Related Robbery at Clarksville Home**

A 23-year-old Laurel man has been sentenced to five years in prison for the April 2017 drug-related robbery of a Clarksville home. Irvin Jacob Smith, of the 9600 block of Overton Drive was sentenced in Howard County Circuit Court on Friday. Last November, Smith pleaded guilty to one count of first-degree assault and two counts of armed robbery of the occupants of a home located in the 5900 block of Trotter Road.

Police were called to the home shortly after midnight on April 11 when the occupants reported that two men had robbed them after being invited into the residence to conduct an illegal drug transaction. Once the men entered the homeowner's bedroom Smith's accomplice produced a semi-automatic handgun and announced a robbery. Over \$13,000 in cellular telephones and luxury clothing and accessories—including a Rolex watch were taken. At the November plea hearing, Assistant State's Attorney Natasha Byus stated that Smith was known and identified by one of the victims.

Judge William V. Tucker sentenced Smith to 25 years in prison, suspending all but five years for the first-degree assault, and two concurrent sentences of 20 years each for the armed robbery charges. Upon his eventual release Smith will be placed on three years of supervised probation.

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